

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

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1. (currently amended) A method ~~of~~ for operating a desktop system comprising:
- creating document object models comprising selected information from and about information assets of diverse types, created by diverse software, said document object models having a consistent structure;
- displaying browse cards related to respective ones of the information assets in a time-ordered stream, together with glance views related to the document object models of the respective displayed documents, said glance views being displayed ~~essentially in real time~~ in response to passing a cursor over respective ones of the browse cards,
- wherein each browse card includes a corresponding set of command buttons specific to the information asset associated with the browse card.

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2. (new) A method for managing a desktop information system, said method comprising:
- searching the desktop information system, according to a single set of one or more user-specified search criteria, said search covering information objects associated with data items that are in heterogeneous formats and are from heterogeneous sources including application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents; and

presenting a result of the search in time order,
wherein the search result includes information objects related to data items from at least two of said heterogeneous sources.

3. (new) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

selecting one of the information objects from the presented search results;
retrieving one of said application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents associated with the selected information object; and
opening an application operable for viewing or operating on the retrieved document.

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4. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein the presented information objects include indications of commands specific to the respective presented objects and further comprising:

performing an operation specific to a selected information object in response to pointing to a command indication in the displayed information object.

5. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein at least one of said information objects is associated with an e-mail, and at least one other of said information objects is associated with an application document.

6. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein at least one of said information objects is associated with an e-mail, and at least one other of said information objects is associated with a web-formatted document.

7. (new) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said web-formatted document is viewable through a browser.

8. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said application documents includes documents created by or for a word processing application.

9. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said application documents includes documents created by or for a spreadsheet application.

10. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said application documents includes documents created by or for a slide presentation application.

11. (new) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said one or more search criteria includes a time-related criterion.

12. (new) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

indexing all of said information objects, prior to searching the desktop information system.

13. (new) A desktop computer search method that organizes and retrieves data units stored in and received by the computer, comprising:

storing in a desktop computer data units in heterogeneous formats from
heterogeneous sources including software applications, e-mail sources and
worldwide web sources;
associating a timestamp with each data unit stored in the desktop computer to
create information describing a stored stream of data units with associated
respective timestamps;
retrieving for display selected data units from said stored stream in response to a
single search query having one or more search terms to create a substream of
data units from at least two of said heterogeneous sources according to their
respective timestamps, said retrieving comprising searching through data units
stored in the desktop computer from said heterogeneous software applications,
e-mail and worldwide web sources; and
visually displaying the data units of said substream in a time ordered sequence
according to their respective timestamps, said display including chronological
indicators of the displayed data units.

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14. (new) An apparatus for managing a desktop information system, said apparatus
comprising:

a search tool adapted to search the desktop information system, according to a
single set of one or more search criteria, and return a result of the search, the
search result including information objects associated with documents that are
in heterogeneous formats and are from heterogeneous sources and include
application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents; and

a presentation tool adapted to process said search result and present the processed result including information objects associated with application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents, in time order.

15. (new) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the search tool includes means for limiting the search to a portion of the desktop information system, based on user specification.

16. (new) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising indexing means for creating a new indexed information object in real time.

17. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein all of said information objects are indexed by said indexing means prior to the search of the desktop information system.

18. (new) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a selection tool for user selection of one of the information object, and for performing an appropriate operation specific to the selected information object in response to pointing to commands in the presented information object.

19. (new) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the appropriate operation includes retrieving a corresponding one of said application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents which is associated with the selected information object, and opening an appropriate application for viewing or operating on the retrieved document.

AI 20. (new) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the commands in the presented information objects are specific to a type to which the presented information object belongs, and different commands are associated with different presented objects.
